

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 04819 290851Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 ONY-00 /012 W  
-----130449 290856Z /10 R

R 290824Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4172

CONFIDENTIAL DAMASCUS 4819

STADIS//////////

FOR NEA/ARN DRAPER

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, SY, US  
SUBJECT: SYRIAN JEWRY

REF: STATE 177582

1. TOUTAH TOLD DCM JULY 28 THAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT BUCAI WIDOW TO BE READY TO TRAVEL ON SAME PLANE AS OTHER SYRIAN JEWISH WOMEN. HE ALSO WAS MORE DOUBTFUL ABOUT AUGUST 1 DATE SINCE HE HAD BEEN INFORMED EARLIER IN DAY THAT SYRIAN PASSPORT OFFICE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED THE PACKET OF APPROVED PASSPORT APPLICATIONS FROM THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES.

2. TOUTAH HAS AGREED TO DRAW UP A LIST OF SYRIAN JEWS WITH IRANIAN PASSPORTS FOR US TO PASS TO HIAS. HE DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE.

3. TOUTAH TOLD CHARLES BETSCH IN DCM'S PRESENCE THAT HE HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN TRYING TO HAVE APPLICATION FOR BETSCH'S WIFE INCLUDED WITH THE 13 MARRIAGE APPLICATIONS PLUS ONE EDUCATION APPLICATION APPROVED BY PRESIDENT ASSAD. COL. MESSAOUD HAD TOLD HIM FLATLY THAT HE COULD NOT ACT AND THAT PRESIDENT ASSAD WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE

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THE APPLICATION. HE TOLD BETSCH THAT HIS BEST COURSE WOULD BE TO RETURN TO US (HE HAS RECEIVED WORD THAT HIS MOTHER IS ILL) AND WORK ON SHALOM TO SUBMIT ANOTHER BATCH OF MARRIAGE PROPOSALS TO WHICH LIST HIS WIFE'S NAME COULD BE ADDED. IN REPLY TO QUESTION WHETHER USG COULD DO ANYTHING TO HELP SPEED HIS WIFE'S DEPARTURE, DCM REPLIED HE THOUGHT TOUTAH'S ADVICE WAS SOUNDEST COURSE TO FOLLOW

THOUGH BETSCH MIGHT WANT TO TRY TO SEE MESSAOUD HIMSELF TO  
MAKE PERSONAL PLEA ON BEHALF OF HIS WIFE.

4. DCM DELIVERED THREE MARRIAGE PROPOSALS TO TOUTAH, WHO  
REPEATED HIS PREVIOUS DECISION TO HOLD THEM UNTIL PRESENT  
GROUP HAD DEPARTED AND DUST HAD SETTLED. HE EXPRESSED  
CONCERN THAT PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE PROXY MARRIAGES (HE  
HAD MET WITH TIME AND AP CORRESPONDENTS IN PAST TWO DAYS)  
WOULD NOT BE TO LIKING OF MESSAOUD AND ABD AL-SAMAD AND WOULD  
HARDEN THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD FUTURE CASES.

5. RABBI HAMRA GAVE DCM LIST OF FORTY WOMEN WHO WISH TO  
RECEIVE MARRIAGE PROPOSALS FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SHALOM.  
COPY BEING POUCHED.

MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JEWS, WOMEN, EXIT PERMITS, MARRIAGES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977DAMASC04819  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 177582  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1868154  
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**TAGS:** PINS, SY, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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